

4-26-1970

## Resist Board Meeting, April 26, 1970

Resist

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes>

---

### Recommended Citation

Resist, "Resist Board Meeting, April 26, 1970" (1970). *Resist Board Meeting Minutes*. 24.  
<https://digitalrepository.trincoll.edu/minutes/24>

## MINUTES

### Resist Steering Committee Meeting

April 26, 1970 New York City

#### ATTENDING

Staff and Steering Committee: Tony Avirgan, Bill Davidon, Florence Howe, Louis Kampf, Paul Lauter, Claudette Piper, Arlene Siegel, Dan Stern, Robert Zevin

Area People: Carrie Hatch

Guests: Herman Heyn, Archie Hobson, Barbara Meil

#### STAFF REPORT

Bob Parsons left RESIST on April 22. The staff recommended that Carrie Hatch be hired immediately as a full-time staff person for three to five weeks to plan the fall poetry tour and that a full-time staff member be hired as soon as possible. It was agreed that Carrie should be hired; a Cambridge-based committee representing staff, steering committee, and area people will interview potential staff members. (At this writing, Archie Hobson has been hired and will start work May 4.)

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

The current unencumbered balance is -\$3099.50. Arlene noted that unlisted additional encumbrances amounted to about \$1400. This bleak picture will be brightened somewhat by income from mailings to 3000 people from the Hard Times list and to signers of the "New Call" who have given RESIST less than \$25. Steering committee and area people will do intense personal fund-raising with irregular pledges and anyone who has given RESIST more than \$25 since the beginning. People agreed that no more than \$500 should be given away as new grants in April.

#### CANADA

Claudette, who had just returned from a six-day trip to Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal, gave a detailed report on groups in Canada. She strongly recommended that RESIST heavily fund Montreal American Deserters Committee over the summer and use its other resources to channel other money into the group. (Bob Levin seconded her assessment of Montreal ADC.) She also recommended that we schedule poetry readings in Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto next fall.

Those present agreed that RESIST should send a representative to the Pan-Canada Deserter-Resister Conference in Montreal in late May. Claudette will attend this conference and afterwards will write a Newsletter article on the political ramifications of immigration to Canada. RESIST will then also provide our key contacts with information on immigration to Canada.



Since the last meeting the office received a \$200 contribution earmarked for use in Canada. In accordance with Claudette's recommendation, \$100 will go to Montreal ADC and \$100 will go to Ottawa Assistance with Immigration and the Draft.

#### HIGH SCHOOL KIT

The high school kit will be distributed by the end of May; the topical kits will be ready as soon as possible after that. Prior to distribution, those who received the first kit will be sent letters asking whether they want the second kit; the card to be returned will contain space for a graduating senior to list another person to receive the kit.

#### POLITICAL PRISONER SURVEY

Claudette reported that Bob Rosenthal of CCLDF believes that The Conspiracy is interested in undertaking the project. Bob recommended that RESIST hang loose until The Conspiracy re-settles in New York City and makes a decision about the project. So be it.

#### GUARDIAN vs. LIBERATED GUARDIAN

RESIST had agreed at a previous meeting to print a Guardian subscription blank in the Newsletter. However, people pointed out that to do so following the coup would be to sanction one side of a political struggle. It was agreed that RESIST could not take a position on the split at this time.

#### RESISTANCE BOOK DISTRIBUTORS

The next Newsletter will include a short article encouraging college teachers to order their course books from Resistance Book Distributors, since all of its profits go to movement activities.

#### CONFERENCES

Arlene and Tony will attend the Third National Resistance Conference near Minneapolis May 4-7.

As mentioned above, Claudette will attend the Pan-Canada Deserter-Resister Conference in Montreal May 31 to June 1. (The conference will be for deserters and resisters only on May 28 and 29.)

Bill Davidson reported briefly on the Stockholm Conference he attended at the end of March.

Wayne will be asked to write a Newsletter article on the mini-conference he arranged for and attended in Alabama.



## ALLENWOOD AND LEWISBURG

Tony announced that demonstrations in support of political prisoners will be held at Allenwood and Lewisburg on Sunday, May 3. Demonstrations are forbidden at Lewisburg, and people will probably engage in civil disobedience there.

## GULF ACTION PROJECT

Tony also reminded people that the Gulf Action Project had organized a demonstration for the annual Gulf stockholders meeting in Pittsburgh on Tuesday, April 28. In Philadelphia the Resistance has also begun to organize against Gulf.

## UNITED STATES SERVICEMEN'S FUND

Robert reported that the Servicemen's Fund is about to lose its tax-exempt status and that its records have been subpoenaed from the bank by the Eastland Committee. A temporary restraining order has been issued against the bank and U.S.S.F. is seeking a permanent injunction.

Bob feels there is no connection between the two events. The former will seriously harm U.S.S.F.'s money-raising ability, and new fund-raising methods will have to be devised. He did not feel the latter event mattered much, since he is sure those who want to already know what is in the records.

## NEWSLETTER

Herman voiced disagreement and discomfort with what has seemed to be the emphasis and approval recently placed on sabotage and terrorism in the Newsletter. Arlene explained that what began as a quest for unpublished information was inadvertently misinterpreted by many because of the unanticipated subsequent events. People agreed that it is important for RESIST to continue, through the Newsletter, the discussion about current strategy and tactics.

## FUND-RAISING

Apart from the projects already underway (reported under "Financial Report"), several new suggestions for further fund-raising were made: Florence suggested that the RESIST office stock the new book she has co-authored with Paul; each copy sold would bring RESIST a \$3 profit. It was agreed that we would stock the book and will advertise the book in the Newsletter; Florence will ask the publishers to note in their ads that the book is available from RESIST.

Florence also reported that Bill Merwin, author of the war satire, "A New Right Arm", would like profits from it to go to draft resistance groups. She has written him saying that RESIST would be delighted to channel these profits, and it was agreed that the office would stock and advertise "A New Right Arm."



Florence also reported that the New York Review of Books has agreed to publish a letter she wrote them about the National Poetry Award Gateway Kinnell donated to RESIST. The text includes Kinnell's letter of acceptance, which explains that he will give the money to RESIST.

#### APRIL FUNDING REQUESTS

A total of \$450 was granted on the condition that money became available. Groups receiving grants were rated by immediate need.

	Total	April	Priority
1. Nashville (Tenn.) Moratorium Committee	\$100	\$100	1
2. Western P.I.S.S.	100	100	4
3. Black Coalition of Labor (Mobile, Alabama)	100	100	2
4. Chicago 15	150	150	3
5. Twin Cities Draft Information Center	postponed		
6. <u>A Four-Year Bunmar</u>	referred to U.S.S.F.		
7. Boston Project for Cuban Teacher Education	denied		
8. Freedom Center Draft Counseling Group (Allston, Mass.)	denied		
9. The Peoples Community Information Center (Chicago)	postponed		

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Steering Committee will next meet in Cambridge on June 7.